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The proceedings of the several sectional meetings contain discussions on numerous topics: such as, Egyptian climate, Abbate and Mahmoud Beys contending that there were no signs of its having changed within the past twelve centuries; the formation of coral-reefs by other means than subsidence, as suggested by Semper and Murray, and here maintained by Rein and Fischer; the definition and limitation of scientific geography to the study of the form of the earth's surface, including the manifestations and reciprocal relations of organic forms, with the aid, where necessary, of other sciences, its distinguishing characteristics being the study of position and distribution; the advisability of representing mountain relief and oceanic depression in school-atlases by contour-lines and shades of color rather than by hachures; the exploration of the Mediterranean by Magnaghi and Giglioli, on the 'Washington,' in 1881, their results about Sicily and Sardinia showing a greater variety in the bottom fauna than had been previously found, and an almost uniform temperature of 13.5° to 13° C. at all depths from 800 to 3,634 metres. Three maps are published in this volume. One shows the position of meridian arcs, measured up to 1865, for geodetic purposes (the arc in southern Africa seems accidentally omitted). Another gives the primary triangulation of Europe, showing a wonderful network of accurately determined lines. This, taken with the maps given in our coast-survey reports, and the map of Indian triangulation, reproduced in Markham's 'Indian surveys,' will show about all that has yet been accomplished in this direction. A third plate shows the route of the 'Washington' in 1881. A second volume of acts and communications is promised, in which more extended and valuable reports of scientific papers will be published.

— American entomologists will regret to learn the sudden death of Prof. P. C. Zeller, by heart-disease, at his residence in Grünhof, near Stettin, Prussia, on the 27th of March. He has been known for many decades for his excellent systematic work on Lepidoptera, especially the lower groups, and of late years has contributed memoirs of importance on American forms. He died at the age of seventy-five, and was actively engaged in his favorite studies to the last.

#### RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

**D'Achiardi, A.** I metalli, loro minerali e minieri. Milano, 1883. 402 p. 8°.

**Allen, Grant, and others.** Nature studies. By Grant Allen, A. Wilson, Th. Foster, E. Clodd, and R. A. Procter. London, 1883. 322 p. 8°.

**Bastian, A.** Inselgruppen in Oceanien. Reiseergebnisse und studien. Berlin, 1882. 305 p., 3 taf. 8°.

— Völkerstämme am Brahmaputra und verwandtschaftliche nachbarn. Reiseergebnisse und studien. Berlin, 1882. 200 p., 2 taf. 8°.

**Belgium** — Musée royal d'histoire naturelle. Bulletin, tom. i. Bruxelles, Hayez imp., 1882. 6+257 p., 12 pl. 8°.

**Braun u. Heider** — Zur orientirung üb. die frage der elektr. beleuchtung. Wien, 1883. 8°.

**Brehm, A. E.** 170 chromatofälen zu Brehm's Thierleben, unter leitung der zoologen Dr. Girtauner, Dr. Klunzinger, O. Schmidt und Dr. Taschenberg nach dem leben ausgeführt vom mäler O. Winkler. Leipzig, *Bibliographischer institut*, 1883. 17 plates. (To be completed in 10 quarterly parts.)

**Brosius et Koch.** Le Mécanicien de chemins de fer. Édition française par Emile With. *Bernard*, 1882. Illustr. 8°.

**Brugsch, Heinr.** Thesaurus inscriptionum aegyptiacarum. Altägyptische inschriften, gesammelt, verglichen, übertragen, erklärt und autographiert. I. Abth. A. u. d. T.: Astronomische und astrolog. inschriften altägypt. denkmäler. Leipzig, 1882. 201 p. 4°.

**Chavanne, Jos.** Afrikas ströme und flüsse. Ein beitrag zur hydrographie des dunklen erdtheils. Mit einer hydrographischen uebersichtskarte Afrikas. Wien, 1882. 235 p. 8°.

**Debus** — Veranschaulichung der tag-u. nacht-länge. Schleswig, 1883. Lith. fol. auf pappe gezogen.

**Delboeuf, J.** Éléments de psychophysique générale et spéciale. Mesur des sensations de lumière et de fatigue. Théorie générale de la sensibilité. Paris, *Bailliére*, 1882. 12°.

**Duchalais, J.** Animaux et insectes nuisibles de la Sologne. Romorantin, 1883. 23 p. 8°.

**Emery, C.** Formiche raccolte (nelle Isole Canarie) dur. le crocere dell' Yacht Corsaro. Genova, 1883. 5 p. 8°.

**Fechner, G. Th.** Revision der hauptpunkte der psychophysik. Leipzig, 1882. 440 p. 8°.

**Graaf, H. W. de.** Sur la construction des organes genitaux des Phalangiens. Essai couronné de la médaille d'or par la faculté des sciences de l'université de Leide. Leiden, 1882. Illustr. 4°.

**Great Britain** — Geological survey. Memoirs. The geology of the country around Cromer. (Explanation of sheet 68 E.) By Cl. Reid. With notes by H. B. Woodward. London, 1883. 8°.

— The same. The geology of the country between Whitby and Scarborough. (Explanation of 4 sheet 95 N. W.) By C. Fox-Shangways a. G. Barrow. London, 1883. 8°.

**Green, Asa T.** 'Eureka,' or the golden gate ajar; the mysteries of the world mysteriously revealed. Cincinnati, *Collins*, 1883. 141 p., illustr., ports. 12°.

**Grollet, Camille.** L'électricité, ses applications pratiques. Paris, *Degorce-Cadot*, 1882. 12°.

**Haeckel, E.** Indische reisebriefe. Berlin, 1882. 368 p. 8°.

**Haeussler, J. W.** Beiträge zur mechanischen wärme theorie, insbesondere die mathematische behandlung der von der wärme geleisteten inneren arbeiten. Leipzig, 1882. 76 p. 8°.

**Halke, H.** Einleitung in das studium der numismatik. Berlin, 1882. 8°.

**Hofmann, A. W.** Chemische erinnerungen aus der Berliner vergangenheit. Zwei akademische vorträge. Berlin, 1882. 158 p. 8°.

**Hoppe, O.** Stammbaum der neuen aufbereitungsanstalt bei Lautenthal. Lith. Clausthal, 1883. 1°.

**James, Powell W.** Guesses at purpose in nature with especial reference to plants. London, 1883. 192 p. 12°.

**Japing, E.** Die elektrische kraftübertragung u. ihre anwendung in der praxis. Mit besonderer rücksicht auf die fortleitung u. vertheilung d. elektr. stromes. Wien, 1883. 256 p., illustr. 8°.

— Kupfer u. messing, sowie andere technisch wichtige kupferlegirungen, ihre darstellungsmethoden, eigenschaften, etc. Wien, 1883. 208 p., illustr. 8°.

**Kareis, J., u. F. Bechtold.** Katechismus der eisenbahn-telegraphie u. des elektrischen signalwesens. Wien, 1883. 160 p., 15 pl. 8°.

**Leenhhardt, F.** Étude géologique de la région du mont Ventoux. Paris, *Masson*, 1883. 274 p., 4 pl. 4°.

**Mission Flatters (II.)** — Historique et rapports rédigés au service central des affaires indigènes, avec, documents à l'appui et une carte dressée p. Bernard. (Gouvernement général d'Algérie.) Alger, 1883. 384 p. 8°.

**New York** — Geological survey. Natural history of New York. Palaeontology, vol. 5, part 1. Lamellibranchiata. Plates and explanations. Albany, *Van Benthuyzen pr.*, 1883. 20 p., 80 pl. 8°.

**Pocket logarithms** to four places of decimals, including logarithms of numbers and logarithmic sines and tangents to single minutes; to which is added a table of natural sines, tangents, and co-tangents. (Van Nostrand's science series, No. 65.) New York, *Van Nostrand*, 1883. 139 p. 24°.

**Preble, G. H.** A chronological history of the origin and development of steam navigation, 1543-1882. Philadelphia, 1883. 8°.